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The Sampler is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.

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Web Highlights

This month's featured lake website is [Crescent Lake](#), Acworth/Unity, NH

[Mapping Land and Water Conservation Fund](#)

[Reston Lakes: Protecting America's Lake Shorelines](#)

[Plant Light Sensors Came From Ancient Algae](#)

Upcoming Events

[Turtle of New Hampshire](#)
July 30, 2015; 7:30 p.m.
Loon Preservation Center
183 Lees Mills Rd.
Moultonborough, NH 03254

["Why Do Rivers Do That?"](#)
New Hampshire Rivers
Council 2015 Annual Meeting
July 30, 2015 5:30 - 8:00
p.m.
Eversource
780 N Commercial St.
Manchester, NH
[Registration Required](#)

[Wetland Delineation Workshop](#)
Friday, Aug. 14, 2015
Trask Swamp Preserve
Alton, NH

[Belknap Hiking Trail](#)

Monthly VLAP Summary

The 2015 VLAP sampling season is well under way with biologists and volunteers busy collecting water quality data. Volunteers continue to utilize the Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) laboratory as well as the Lake Sunapee Protective Association-Colby Sawyer College (LSPA-CSC) VLAP satellite laboratory at Colby Sawyer College in New London to borrow equipment and analyze samples.

VLAP sampling kicked off in April with many lakes dropping off chloride and tributary samples during the spring snow melt period. Volunteers were also busy tracking [lake ice out](#) and entering the dates into the online form. May was busier than normal with a total of nine biologist visits and six lakes sampling on their own. May was the second warmest and sixth driest on record in Concord, NH according to the National Weather Service. This resulted in slightly lower water levels for many lakes, but also resulted in good water clarity due to the lack of rainfall.

June kicked off with the annual VLAP Workshop and training of two new VLAP interns. Once Callie and Carina were up to speed, VLAP completed a total of 31 biologist visits and volunteers sampled a total of 54 lakes on their own. The National Weather Service reports that June was cooler and wetter than normal, with the majority of rainfall falling at the beginning and end of the month. Volunteers continued to note the better than average water clarity in June which was likely the result of low levels of algal growth and lack of stormwater runoff in May.

Reconstruction Days

Various dates Aug., Sept., Oct.

Soil Mapping Workshop

Friday, Aug. 28, 2015

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

NHDES

29 Hazen Dr.

Concord, NH 03301

Grants

2016 Moose Plate Grants

Deadline: September 25, 2015

2016 Source Water Protection Grants

Deadline: November 2, 2015

Limno Lingo

Kellicotia: A genera of Rotifer which is a common zooplankton in North American lakes. [Kellicotia bostoniensis](#) was first described from an artificial lake in Boston, MA. It is a common species seen in N.H. lakes, the Great Lakes, bogs, and rivers.



Spectacle Pond in Groton, new to VLAP in 2015!

So far, July has been BUSY! We've managed to conduct a total of 42 biologist visits and volunteers sampled 69 times on their own. I don't know how we fit it all in! Volunteers have also been busy conducting additional tests at their lakes. Many lakes have been conducting monthly temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles by borrowing meters from the JCLC and LSPA-CSC laboratory. Volunteers have also been very excited to participate in the Cyanobacteria Pilot Project collecting additional samples at their lakes to measure levels of phycocyanin, a pigment produced by cyanobacteria. It's hard to believe July is almost over!

Three New Variable Milfoil Infestations in 2015!

Three new infestations of Variable milfoil (an invasive aquatic plant) have been identified in ponds in New Hampshire this summer. The milfoil was identified at Turee Pond in Bow, Pine Island Pond in Manchester, and Oxbow Pond in Canterbury, a small oxbow formed from the Merrimack River.



Variable milfoil in Pine Island Pond, Manchester

Unfortunately these were not early detections, and several acres in each waterbody were already infested by the time the milfoil was reported. DES recommends monitoring your waterbody once a month from May through September through the Weed Watcher Program so that any new infestations are found early, before they spread. Early detection makes for easier control and potential eradication of the infestation. You can send digital pictures of plants in for identification to Amy Smagula or mail them to NHDES, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301. For more information about the Weed Watcher Program please contact Amy Smagula at amy.smagula@des.nh.gov.

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